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January 3, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

This letter is to express support for the settlement to the antitrust dispute negotiated by Microsoft and the Justice Department. I think it is in the best interest of everyone involved if the District Court Judge accepts the agreement, and this case is brought to closure.

The settlement is sensible, just, and addresses many of the problems that people had with Microsoft to begin with. Important steps will be taken to ensure that others have reasonable access to the market. At the same time, it recognizes the contributions that Microsoft has made to the computer industry and the U.S. economy. For example, Microsoft will still be able to sell licenses to computer makers, but only at a set standard price, meaning that Microsoft can't play favorites or retaliate if another company's software is also being put on a computer. The settlement also allows Microsoft to continue to use the integrated technology that has made it a world leader. Other firms will also be able to access this technology, so computers will become even more integrated, and consumers will end up with even more creative choices.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on this. I hope that the settlement will be final.

Sincerely,



Carl Chiofolo
President